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           IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
 2
                     WESTERN DIVISION
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     MAURICE ALLEN,
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                   Plaintiff,
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     VS.
                                  CASE NO. C-1-02-492
     DEERFIELD MFG., INC., a : (Judge Hogan)
 7
     Subsidiary of ICE
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     INDUSTRIES,
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                   Defendant. :
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            Deposition of JANET FREEMAN, a witness
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12
     herein, taken by the plaintiff as upon
     cross-examination pursuant to the Federal Rules
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     of Civil Procedure, and pursuant to notice and
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     stipulations hereinafter set forth, at the
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     offices of Tobias, Kraus & Torchia, 911
16
     Mercantile Library Building, 424 Walnut Street,
17
     Cincinnati, Ohio, at 9:46 a.m., on August 8,
18
     2003, before Kelly Green, RPR, a Notary Public
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2.0
     within and for the State of Ohio.
21
22
                  Williams and Oliver
23
                 6689 Raes Creek Court
                 Loveland, Ohio 45140
24
                      (513) 683-9626
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	Case 1:02-cv-00492-SAS Doc	ument 3	30-3	Filed 12/08/2003 Page 2 of 20	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	APPEARANCES: On behalf of the Plaintiff: DAVID G. TORCHIA, ESQ. Tobias, Kraus & Torchia 911 Mercantile Library Building 414 Walnut Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 On behalf of the Defendant: RENISA A. DORNER, ESQ. Wise & Dorner, Ltd. 151 N. Michigan Street, Suite 333 Toledo, Ohio 43604	Page 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	INDEX Witness Page JANET FREEMAN By Mr. Torchia 5 EXHIBITS Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1 39 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2 64 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 3 64 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4 78 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5 82 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6 95 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 7 98 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 8 99 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 9 105 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 10 106	age 4
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	STIPULATIONS It is stipulated by and among counsel for the respective parties that the deposition of JANET FREEMAN, a witness herein, may be talthis time by the plaintiff as upon cross-examination, pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and pursuant to notice; that the deposition may be taken in stenotypy by the notary public and court reporter and transcribed by her out of the presence of the witness; that the deposition is to be submitted to the witness for his/her examination and signature, and that signature is not waived.		3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	JANET FREEMAN, a witness herein, having been duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:	gge 5

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Yes.

Phillip O'Cull.

Α.

A.

Deerfield --

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When and under what circumstances?

Approximately three months ago,

concerning an employment on age discrimination.

Who is the plaintiff in that case?

Q. He's somebody who was not rehired by

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coming in to look at the company, give them the information they're looking for, and the time of this meeting in mid January of 2002, can you tell me what discussions you had with Mr. Ice about the sale of the company and how it would affect the employees there?

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- A. I'm sorry. What was the time frame again that you asked?
- Q. Between the time when Mr. Norris --I think you testified before you came back from vacation late November/early December, and Mr. Norris said somebody is looking over the company. This isn't your exact testimony, but basically give them the information they're looking for.

Between then and January 17th, 2002, or mid January of 2002 when Mr. Ice conducted this meeting with the employees, can you tell me about any other conversations you had with Mr. Ice about what would happen to employees or what might happen to employees upon the purchase of the company?

A. Mr. Ice actually sat down with myself and Dave Randall and gave us an idea of what he was looking for and the way that they

that would be expected to make rates out there on the floor; good attendance; good work ethics.

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Page 25

3 We needed somebody to be a team 4 player; people who weren't afraid to step up into 5 team lead position; and in absence of team leaders, to be able to step up. He wanted 6 7 dedicated employees.

- 8 Do you remember anything else that 9 he said at that meeting with you and Mr. Randall? 10
 - A. No.
 - Q. Do you remember anything that you or Mr. Randall said to Mr. Ice in response to what he described as the type of employees that he wanted?
 - A. I know that there were some questions asked because I was curious as to how the team concept would work, to get a little more specific on the team concept.

And then he had given me a name to contact at his other plant on the responsibilities of, per se, a team leader and what that team concept was so I would have a better understanding.

Q. Where is his other plant?

Page 23

would change production, and the overall running of the manufacturing floor would go into a whole different concept as to what we were doing.

And he left the hiring of the employees to us -- the evaluation and the hiring to us. He basically set the tone as to what he was looking for in employees.

- And this is in a meeting with you Ο. and Mr. Randall?
 - Yes. Α.
- 11 Q. Was it one meeting or a series of 12 meetings?
 - A. No. It was one meeting.
 - Q. And was it around mid January, or was it sometime before that?
 - A. I don't recall. I don't know if it was the -- probably about the first week or two of January. It would have been prior to the meeting.
- 20 Tell me what Mr. Ice said to you and 21 Mr. Randall about the type of employee he was 22 looking for.
- 23 A. He was looking for someone that was 24 fast-paced, that could keep up with production,

Toledo, Ohio. Α.

- 2 Do you know what the name of that 3 company or facility is?
- 4 A. Acklin Stamping.
 - Q. A-K --
 - A. A-C-K-L-I-N.
 - The team concept is basically O. allowing the team to set the schedule for employees, set their hours, do that sort of --
- 10 they become much more autonomous than having a
- 11 supervisor at some other level run their shift 12 and run their production; is that generally what
- 13 you're talking about?
- 14 A. No, not really. In the team 15 concept, they're assigned to specific machines.
- 16 They know what the rates are for those machines. 17
- They know going into that. 18
 - They don't chose what's being produced or what that schedule is. That's
- 20 already set for them. It's their responsibility 21 to go out and make the rates.
- 22 If there's -- take more
- 23 responsibility in the quality end and into the
- 24 product that they're making as a team versus

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waiting until the product is done and then having a quality person then coming up and saying these are bad parts. We want to know that from the onset.

Their involvement would deal more with the quality end, being able to make those rates, decisions on that part of it.

- Q. And that's what he wanted to see happen here?
- A. Yes.

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- 11 Q. Has that been implemented?
 - A. Yes, it has.
- Q. Do you remember anything else about your discussion with Mr. Randall and Mr. Ice in early January 2002?
- 16 A. I can't think of anything else at 17 this time.
- Q. Was there any discussion at that point in time with Mr. Ice about what to do with employees who were off on some sort of leave of absence and weren't actively working?
 - A. No.
- Q. Not with Mr. Ice?
- 24 A. No.

about some sort of adverse affect on employees who were off on a Worker's Comp leave or Family Medical Leave Act; did you just eliminate those people from consideration?

Page 28

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A. On anybody that was on any type of leave, they were not considered. Now, Earl Baker -- when he came back -- then was considered for a position at Deerfield.

The other criteria was on attendance. If an employee was in a probationary period with the old company, we did not bring those new employees -- or those employees on as a new employee.

- Q. If you know, was there a written agreement between Mr. Norris and Deerfield Manufacturing Company and Mr. Ice and Deerfield Manufacturing, Inc., about the purchase of the company and the assets and those things?
- A. My understanding -- and I -- as I
 said, this is my understanding, that it was an
 asset sale, and the employees were not considered
 part of that asset.

 O. Do you know if there was anything
 - Q. Do you know if there was anything relating to employees in the purchase agreement

Page 27

- Q. How about with Mr. Randall or anybody else here, was there a discussion about what to do with those on leave of absence?
- A. We sat down with the list. We both had the same list, and we basically set a criteria as to evaluate the employees.
 - Q. What were the criteria?
 - A. Who were actively working employees.
- I'm sorry. I just drew a blank. They had applied for a position with the company. My mind just went blank. I'm sorry.
- Q. Was there any discussion aboutopportunities for employees who were not actively
- opportunities for employees who were no working, like Mr. Allen and Mr. Baker...
 - A. No.
- Q. ...under what circumstances they could come to work for this new company or the new owner?
- A. We did not set any criteria for that. We were looking at employees -- and those employees who could begin work on 2/1 was another criteria for us.
- Q. In terms of actively working employees, do you remember having any discussion

or the buy/sell agreement?

- A. I do not, other than they were not considered part of the asset.
 - Q. Did you have any discussion with Mr. Ice or anybody else about what personnel policies and procedures would go into effect between January 31st and the new company taking over?
 - A. Yes, I did.
 - Q. Tell me about that.
 - A. We had to rewrite the handbook.
 - Q. Who was involved in that?
- 12 A. Myself primarily; and then once I 13 had gone through the handbook, then I sat down 14 with Mr. Ice -- I don't know if there was anybody
- else present at that time or not -- and we went through the handbook.
- Q. That's a different meeting you had with Mr. Ice?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. When was that?
 - A. Sometime in January.
- Q. You said it was before or after the
- 23 meeting you had with Mr. Ice and Mr. Randall?
 - A. I'm sorry. I really -- I don't

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already completed?

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- A. Yes, because of the time frame and the 2/1 start date
- Q. Did you mail any of these packets to the employees like Mr. Allen who were off on some sort of leave?
 - A. No, I did not.
- Q. Did you make any attempt to communicate with Mr. Allen and the other employees off on leave about this packet and the application process?
 - A. No, I did not.
- Q. During the course of either of these two meetings, did any employees ask questions about the selection process of whether they would have a job or not have a job?
 - A. Not that I recall.
- Q. Are there any tape recordings of the 18 19 meetings; do you know?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 O. Are there any notes of the meetings?
- 22 I did make some notes. Α.
- 23 Do you still have those?
 - A. I believe I do, yes.

with the employees.

Q. Had he been up in Toledo before?

3 A. No. He worked for another company, but I don't -- I don't know if that was Toledo 4 5 Technologies at that time or what his background 6 was at that time.

- 7 Q. He came to Deerfield Manufacturing, 8 Inc., as the general manager?
 - A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And has been physically located here 11 since then? 12
 - A. Yes.
- 13 Q. He's still here?
 - A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Now, it appears -- there doesn't 16 seem to be much dispute about this -- about a week after that meeting, Mr. Allen made an 17 attempt to get ahold of you to talk about coming 18 19 back to work; is that right?
 - A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. And his testimony yesterday was that

22 he left a message with Sharon about the

23 application process. Do you remember having any

discussion with Sharon about the message that Mr.

- Do you remember what they refer to?
- A. Just what Mr. Ice had talked about. I don't think they were very detailed. They were just like a point type...
- Q. Along with a packet that you prepared, was there any sort of cover sheet with information about whether or not Manufacturing Company employees would be considered Inc. employees as long as they filled out an application, anything to go with the packet?
 - A. No.
- O. Was any information about the application process posted on the bulletin board or anywhere else?
 - A. No.
- Q. Is there anything else you remember about either of the two meetings in mid January when you passed out these packets and Mr. Ice introduced Mr. Swick -- do you remember anything else that was said?
 - A. No.
- 22 Q. Did Mr. Swick say anything that you 23 remember?
 - A. Said he looked forward to working

1 Allen left?

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- A. I don't. The only -- I do recall our conversation on the 24th.
 - O. Your conversation --
- With Mr. Allen. I don't recall if I Α. called him or he called me. Mr. Allen -- each time that I received a note from the doctor, he would call to verify that I did receive it.
- And it was right around that time frame, and I think I had stated in my book that I did note that there was M. Allen on 2/4 -- a release date of 2/4/02.
- So whether you got that because you saw the release date or you talked to Mr. Allen, you made that note on January 24th?
- A. I more than likely had made the note that I had received it.
 - Q. From his chiropractor?
- From the doctor, correct.
- 20 So you don't remember any discussion 21 about the conversation -- a conversation she may 22 have had with Mr. Allen on the 23rd?
- 23
 - - Q. But you do remember speaking with

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Mr. Allen on the 24th?

A. Yes, I do.

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- O. And you have notes of the conversation?
- A. I don't have notes of the conversation other than it states 2/4/02 -- a release date 2/4/02.
- Q. Tell me what you remember about your conversation with Mr. Allen on January 24th?
- A. He asked if I had received the information from the doctor, and I stated that I did. Mr. Allen said that he had heard that the company was selling and that he would -- asked me if I would give Venita Watson a packet that the other employees had received to fill out.

And I stated that I would not; that he was welcome to come in and put an application in after 2/4 as that was when the doctor released him

- Q. Do you remember anything else about that conversation?
 - A. No. I do not.
- 23 Q. Did you talk to Venita Watson about 24 any information she had given to Mr. Allen or any

We're in a conference room here on the second floor. When I came in, I saw a door that said human resources office. Is that --

4 A. Correct. That would be the personnel hallway.

Q. And that's where the applications are kept or left?

A. At that time, that's where they were kept, and that had been in place since 2000 -since about February of 2000.

Q. You mean the applications being available there?

Α. Yes.

Q. Do you remember any conversation or any discussion you had with Mr. Allen between January 24th and February 4th?

A. No, other than the conversation on the 24th.

Q. Right, you had that, which you just told us about. You don't remember anything between then and February 4th?

22 A. No. There was no other conversations from then until February 4th. 23 24

Had the decision been made as of

Page 55

conversation she had with him?

- A. No, I do not.
- When you told Mr. Allen that he could come in after February 4th when the doctor released him, did he say anything to you?
 - A. Not that I recall.
- Q. When you ended that conversation, did you have some expectation of seeing Mr. Allen sometime on February 4th or after that so that he would fill out an application?
- A. He didn't state in the conversation he was coming in or he would see me on 2/4. That was the end of our conversation.
- Q. Did you say to him, I'll see you then on the 4th or whenever you're released?
 - A. No, I did not.
- Q. Did you give him any instructions at that point in time about how he could go about getting an application on the 4th?
- 20 A. I did state that our applications 21 are in the hallway -- personnel hallway. They're 22 on a desk located out in the personnel hallway. 23
 - Q. And that was on the 24th?
 - A. That was on the 24th.

Page 57

Page 56

January 24th that Mr. Allen would not be hired by 1 2 the new company? 3

A. I would have to look at a calendar to what that week was prior to the sell of the company. I think we sat down the Monday prior to the Friday before 2/1 and went over our list. It would have been... about the 28th would have been when we went over that.

O. You and Mr. Randall?

Yes. Α.

Q. Is that the meeting you were telling me about before where you went over a list, or is that a different meeting?

A. This is a separate time frame.

So the sequence of events is you have this discussion with Mr. Allen on the 24th?

A. Yes.

Q. And then on the 28th or sometime around the 28th -- what did you say, the Monday before the...

21 A. It was the Monday before the sale --22 or before the actual sale took place or when it 23 went into effect.

Q. Do you know what date the sale took

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A. I don't know that.

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- O. Why was he on leave?
- It was for a personal illness.
- Q. Is he getting any sort of short-term/long-term disability benefits?
 - A. He didn't offer long-term.
- O. By January 31st of 2002, he had not made any attempt to return to work or presented you with any medical documentation?
- A. No, he did not. Mr. Collett did call me at some point before January 31st and said that he did hear that the company was for sale and that he would not be returning to work. He was not able and he would not be returning to work.

(Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4 was marked for identification.)

- Q. Exhibit 4 is a letter from you to Mr. Allen dated January 30, 2002, advising him that Deerfield Manufacturing Company had been sold and his employment would cease as of the 31st, right?
- A. Yes.
 - Was there anyone else that you sent

persons.

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Q. But in terms of a letter in the form of Exhibit 4, Mr. Allen and Mr. Collett were the only two people you can recall that would have gotten those letters?

Page 80

- A. Yes.
- Q. And they were sent because they weren't actively working and weren't in a position to get verbal notification from their supervisors?
- A. If Mr. Allen would have been here and would have been evaluated and if that were the case, then he would have received a verbal.
- 14 Q. Is there any reason why you just 15 didn't call Mr. Allen on January 30th or 31st and say, I'm sorry to tell you that your employment 16 17 is going to end as of tomorrow?
 - A. We felt that written notification because he was not here would be necessary.
 - Q. But you also knew that he had been released to return to work effective February 4th and that he was interested in coming back to work and filling out an application, didn't you?
 - A. He had not filled out an application

Page 79

- a letter like this to?
- A. Mr. Collett would have received something similar to that.
 - Q. Anybody else?
 - Not that I can recall. Α.
- Q. How about Mr. Osborne, the other people that weren't hired, Ms. Shelton, Mr. Wyatt -- I'm sorry -- Mr. Fowler, Ms. Davis, did they all get letters like this?
 - No, they did not. A.
 - Q. Why not?
- They were advised by the supervisor they would no longer be working, or that as of the sale of the company, they were no longer employed.
- 16 Q. So they got verbal notification from 17 their supervisors? 18
 - Α. Yes, they did.
 - Did they get Cobra forms? Q.
- 20 Α.
- 21 Q. From their supervisors or from you?
- 22 No. It would have been -- and I --
- 23 I don't recall if we sent those out or if that 24
 - was sent out by the Stolle Company on those

Page 81 or to my knowledge had not come in to pick up an

application.

O. But he expressed an interest to you on January 24th?

- A. He asked for a packet like the other employees to be hired, and I stated that he could fill out an application.
- Q. He also asked if you got his doctor's release releasing him on the 4th, right?
- A. Yes, but he also called numerous times before asking if I had gotten the doctor's notification as well.
- Q. Is it your testimony that you had no idea that Mr. Allen wanted to come back to work on February 4th; is that what you're saying?
 - A. No, that is not what I'm saying.
- So you knew he had an interest in coming to work with this new company?
- A. He had a doctor's release releasing him to come back to work on 2/4/02.
- O. And he asked you about a packet with the applications in it?
- A. Yes. He had asked if I would send one home with an employee.

Page	82
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- Q. Which indicated to you some interest on his part in coming to work, right?
 - A. (Witness nods head up and down.)
- Q. At least filling out an application and being considered for work, correct?
 - A. Yes.

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(A brief break was taken.)

(Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5 was marked for identification.)

10 BY MR. TORCHIA:

- Q. Exhibit 5 is another status report for Mr. Allen. That indicates that he's been terminated due to company closure as of January 31st, 2002; is that right?
 - Yes. Α.
- 16 Q. Your signature is here. Do you know if anybody else's writing appears on this 17 18 document?
- 19 A. No. That would have been my 20 writing. 21
 - Q. It says date issued February 4th, 2002. Is that when you filled this out?
- 23 A. Yes. 24
 - Q. Do you know at what point in the day

something in the locker room, and I had advised

- 2 him that the locker room had been cleaned out in
- 3 December, but he was more than welcome to go back 4

Page 84

Page 85

and see if there was anything still there that belonged to him.

We walked down the aisleway. I advised him that he was going to have to leave the plant. I wished him luck and he left.

- O. Were you with him when he got whatever it was that he left?
- A. I didn't walk into the men's locker 11 12 room with him.
- 13 Q. Were you with him when he came out 14 of the locker room?
- 15 A. I was standing at the entrance 16 there, and then we walked up the aisle together.
- 17 Q. Do you remember what he got out of 18 the locker room?
 - A. No, I don't recall.
- 20 Is the time clock on the plant O. 21 floor?
- 22 A. Yes. It's as you enter the building 23 at the employees' entrance. 24
 - Q. Did you see him come into the

Page 83

on February 4th you filled that out?

- A. No, I do not.
- Q. Do you remember if it was before Mr. Allen came to the plant or after?
 - A. I do not recall.
- Q. Tell me what you remember about your interaction with Mr. Allen on February 4th.
- A. I was out in the plant as it was a new time card system, various things with the new team concept, and we had various managers out on the floor.

But as far as the conversation. I was out on the floor, and Mr. Allen walked into the plant. And I asked him what he was doing at the plant, and he said he came to work for the new company.

And I asked him if he had received the letter from Deerfield Company terminating his employment. He said he had. And he said he came to fill out the packet like the other employees.

I stated he was welcome to fill out an application, and I pointed to this back area. that they were kept in the personnel hallway.

Mr. Allen stated that he had

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A. I can't recall actually seeing him enter the building. I know that I was close to the time card or over in that aisleway over near the time clock -- excuse me -- and over in the main aisleway there. I don't recall meeting him at the door.

Q. Were you waiting for him to arrive on the 4th?

A. No, I was not. We had installed a new time card system which required scanning, versus the old time clock to where they actually punched it; and I was out there because of helping any employee that might have any problems that might arise or any questions that they might have.

Q. Okay. So he showed up?

A.

19 Q. Was there anyone else around when he 20 showed up?

21 A. Not that I'm aware of. There were 22 employees out on the floor in there starting to 23 work -- had already started working.

Q. Mr. Allen's tone throughout the

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whole entire conversation was professional; he didn't act in any inappropriate way with you, did he?

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- And he said he came to fill out the Q. packet?
- He said he came to work for the new company.
 - Q. But he also, you testified --
- And then he stated -- yes, he also stated that he came out to fill out a packet like the other employees.
- Q. And he said you pointed to the hallway --
- Yes. I pointed -- at that point, Α. where I would have been standing, I would have pointed in this direction (indicating). And I said he was more than welcome to fill out an application. They were located in the hallway, the personnel hallway.
- Q. And then you escorted him to the locker room and escorted him out of the plant?
 - Yes, I did.
 - Q. Before he left, did you say, I

end of our conversation.

Q. Did she say why or --

3 A. No. With everything that was going 4 on that day with the time clock system and trying 5 to get everything organized, there wasn't too 6 much room to...

- Q. Did you tell Mr. Allen that he could go down and apply for unemployment?
- A. I don't... no.
 - Q. Did not?
- 11 A. No, I did not.
- O. He did go down and apply for 12 unemployment. You're aware of that? 13 14
 - A. No, I'm not aware of that.
- 15 Did you ever get any information 16
- from the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services about his application? 17
- 18 A. I don't recall seeing anything like 19 that.
- 20 Q. Do you remember having any discussion with anybody about his application for 21 22 employment benefits? 23
 - A. No.
 - Q. Who normally --

Page 87

- thought you wanted to fill out an application; go do it while you're here?
 - A. No. I did not.
- Q. So you didn't remind him before he left to do that?
 - A. No.
- Q. Other than you pointing to where the applications were kept and telling him he was welcome to fill one out, was there any other discussion about -- and him saying he wanted to fill out the packet like the other employees, was there any other discussion about applications or packets that morning on the 4th?
- A. On the 4th, no, other than when he entered the plant where the employees were working. He had mentioned that he came to work for the new company, and then he had mentioned that he came to fill out his packet like the other employees.
- Q. After he left, did you talk to anybody about what had just happened?
- 22 A. When I came up to personnel, I did 23 make note to Sharon that Maurice Allen had been 24 in the plant, and I believe that was about the

- A. It would either have been through comp management or that possibly could have come from Stolle. I'm not... again, I have... would have to see that paperwork. I really don't recall it.
- Q. As of February 4th, you had ads in the paper for two, three, four weeks looking for operators?
- A. Not that length of time, no. It would have been placed that last -- probably the last week or the first week of February that we placed an ad for second shift operators.
- Q. I thought you said there was some sort of package deal with the paper where you got two or three or four weeks?
- 16 A. We did, but it didn't start until 17 that last -- like it would have started the last 18 week of January or the first week of February and 19 carried on throughout that time frame, through 20 the month of February. 21
 - Q. So there were ads in the paper for operators throughout the month of February?
- 23 A. Yes. Actually, I think the ad was 24 operators and packers for our second shift.

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Page 90

Q. And Mr. Allen, at the time he left the company, had been reclassified as an operator, right?

A. That's correct. He did not have knowledge of that.

- Q. But he was in the classification that you were seeking in these ads in the paper, right?
 - Α. That's correct.

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- And you don't remember any discussion with anybody about Mr. Allen's unemployment claim?
 - A. No, I don't recall that.
- You don't remember telling anybody, O. We should contest this claim because we've had work available for Mr. Allen, and all he has to do is apply for a job?

A. No, I don't recall contesting any -or discussing that.

- Q. If Mr. Allen had filled out an application on February 4th, what would have happened with it?
- A. As far as what do you mean what would have happened?

his classification, is there any reason you know 2 of he wouldn't have been hired in the month of 3 February 4th? 4

Page 92

Page 93

A. When he was working here at 5 Deerfield, it was that as a forklift operator. So I did not have a forklift operator's position 6 7 open. I advertised for an operator. 8

Even though we reclassed him as an operator, when Mr. Allen came back, he would have been given that choice whether he chose that position or not, and that's as an actively working employee for Deerfield Manufacturing Company.

- Q. Is there any reason that Mr. Allen wouldn't have been hired in February of 2002 had he filled out an application?
- A. For a punch press operator's position?
 - Q. For an operator's position.
- A. We would have considered his application.
- Q. Do you know if he'd ever been a punch press operator at the company in his previous years with the company?

Page 91

- 1 Q. What would the process have been? 2 If he had filled out an application, it would 3 have come to you? 4
 - A. Yes, the application would have came up to the human resource department.
 - What would have happened?
 - At some point in time, we would have Α. looked at the applications when I started to interview.
 - Q. So you would have treated him the same as some outside applicant?
 - A. We would have looked at -- knowing that he had worked for the company before, we would have looked at his record at that point in time.
 - Q. Is there any reason why Mr. Allen wouldn't have been hired as a result of an application on February 4th that you know of?
 - A. Other than as of today or as of February 4th?
- 21 Through the month of February, you O. had openings; you were advertising in the paper. 22 23 If he filled out an application on the 4th.
 - knowing there were positions available then for

I believe he had at some time.

- Q. As you were considering applications of other people for operators, did it ever cross your mind that Mr. Allen was out there and available?
- A. No, because I did not receive an application from him.
- Q. You eventually received an EEOC charge from him, right?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. At that point in time, did you 12 consider that he was interested in coming back to 13 work and wanted to come back to work and was 14 upset that he wasn't back to work with the 15 company?
 - A. On the EEOC charge that he had filed, I felt he was very discontented with what had transpired.
 - Q. What caused you to say that?
 - Because of the accusations that were A. made.
 - Ο. What accusations?
- 23 That it was the first one based on A. racial discrimination.

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Page 98 (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 7 was marked for identification.)

Q. Exhibit 7 is I think what you were just referring to as your answer to the EEOC; is

that right?

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That's correct. A.

Q. Did you write this yourself, or did anyone assist you in writing it?

A. No, I wrote this myself.

Everything you say in this letter is true and accurate?

A. Yes.

13 Q. Is there any other information that 14 you supplied to the EEOC besides this letter and what was attached? 15

A. I believe -- I want to read the letter quickly here. (Examining document.)

18 Yes. It says I have attached a 19 letter that was sent to Mr. Allen by the previous 20 owner, Deerfield Manufacturing Company,

21 terminating his employment. So the letter in 22 Exhibit 4 would have been attached to this.

23 Q. In the first paragraph, you say,

Actively working employees did include black and

Q. Do you know if he filled this out on 2 February 4th? 3

Page 100

Page 101

A. I believe he -- looks like he signed it on January 28th.

Q. Is any of this writing yours?

A.

O. There's also a date in the upper right-hand corner that says date, February 4th, 2002?

> Yes. Α.

11 Q. Did you meet with him on whenever 12 day it was that he signed this?

A. What do you mean that he signed what? The application?

Q. The application.

16 A. He would have filled the application 17 and brought it up to us.

18 Q. Do you remember receiving it on 19 February 4th from him?

20 A. I don't know if it was February 4th 21 or January 28th that we received it. I believe 22 it to be January 28th. 23

Q. Do you remember having any discussion with him at about the time you

Page 99

other minorities. All were hired by Deerfield Manufacturing, Incorporated.

Not all actively working employees as of January 31st, 2002, were hired by Deerfield Manufacturing, Inc., were they?

6 A. All black and other minority workers 7 of Deerfield Company were hired by Deerfield. 8 Inc.

Q. Is that what that means?

Α. Yes.

11 O. All blacks and minorities were

hired? 12

13 Α. Yes.

14 Was Carl Roth hired by Deerfield Q.

15 Manufacturing, Inc., at some point in time? 16

Α. Yes, he was.

O. When was he hired?

18 A. He was hired on February the 4th for 19 second shift as an operator.

(Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 8 was marked 20 21 for identification.)

22 Q. This exhibit appears to be a copy of

23 Mr. Roth's application; is that right?

24 A. Yes. received this?

2 A. Yes.

What do you remember?

A. I would have at that point in time -- I'm not sure if it was the day that I received this or after the fact, because I know we met on the 28th looking at employees and the production needs and where we would be and what our needs would be.

10 So I don't recall if I did it on the 28th or later in the week -- had talked to Mr. 11 12 Roth about employment with Deerfield

13 Manufacturing, Incorporated.

14 Was he discussed in your meeting 15 with Mr. Randall on the 27th or 28th?

16 No. He was not on our employee 17 list.

Q. In your meeting with Mr. Randall, you didn't talk about any applications or new applications from non-current employees?

A. No, we did not.

Q. And he was hired for an operator position on the second shift, right?

A. Yes.

26 (Pages 98 to 101)

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Page 102

- Did he actually begin on February 2 4th?
 - Yes, he did, on second shift.
 - So within a few days of the time he turned in his application, he was working with the company?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Do you know what his job was previously working at the company?
- A. He had different jobs with the company. I believe he was -- I don't know if he was a blanking line operator at the time or if he was an operator with the company. He could have been QC, also, quality control.
- Q. He applied for, at least according to the application, the blanking line, first shift?
 - He applied blank line first or any.
- Just so that the record's clear, he says in his application that he worked at Deerfield from November of '93 to June of '02. That should be June of '01; is that right?
- 23 Α.
 - O. His comment here is that 10.50 an

pay scale was, wherever he was as an operator, that's where it would start. Plus on second shift, we pay a 50 cent shift deferential.

Page 104

- Q. When you and Mr. Randall were talking about who was going to be hired and who wasn't, did the people who came back -- who started with Deerfield Manufacturing, Inc., all have the same jobs that they had when they worked for Deerfield Manufacturing Company?
 - A. No, they did not, not all employees.
- So there was movement of employees from operators to some other job or forklift driver to operator?
- 14 A. Most it would have been just the 15 opposite of the onset. It would have been indirect to direct labor is what we looked at. 16 17
 - Q. Okay.
- 18 So those positions, rather it have 19 been a forklift operator to a press operator.
- 20 Q. But you've never said, and it's not the company's position, that there wasn't work available for Mr. Allen on February 4th of 2002; is that right?
 - A. I've never said there was not work

Page 103

- 1 hour was not enough income. That's his reason 2 for leaving Conner & Murphy, at least that's what 3 he states. Did you talk to him about that?
 - A. I don't recall talking to him about the not enough income. I know at previous conversations, he was not happy where he was working. He was not getting in as much time and sometimes too much time because he was on call 24 hours.
 - Q. In your previous conversations with him when he would call and ask if there was any hiring, did he say anything about not getting enough income?
 - A. No, I don't recall that.
 - Q. And do you know what his starting rate of pay was for Ice Industries?
 - A. I would have to go back and look at what we were paying at the time.
- 19 Q. But you said before, everybody 20 received the 50 cent per hour increase with the 21 new company? 22
 - A. Right. That's correct.
 - Q. And that would have included him?
 - A. Well, the pay scale -- wherever that

Page 105

for him, no. I stated that. 2 There was work available on February 3 4th?

A. Operating positions. We had positions open on our second shift for operators.

- Q. Which is what Mr. Roth was able to do within a space of a couple days or few days, apply or come to work within a week's time or less?
 - Yes, on the second shift. (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 9 was marked for identification.)
- Q. Exhibit 9 is a two-page exhibit that was produced as part of Mr. Allen's personnel file, and I want to ask you about it because there's no indication about who put it together or when or what it has to do with. Is this something you wrote?
- A. No, this is not. At one point in time, Deerfield Company kept a card on each employee; and basically, you could pull that card to see what classification they were in, the rate, and the dates that that transpired instead

of having to pull the files.

Page 106 Page 108 Q. So --1 Mr. Roth is caucasian? 2 A. It doesn't look like it was 2 Α. Yes 3 completed and updated. 3 Q. When did Ms. Gibson fill out an Q. This document wasn't considered and 4 4 application? 5 has nothing to do with Mr. Allen not coming to 5 A. I would have to look at the date in 6 work for Deerfield Manufacturing, Inc.? 6 which she filled out an application. 7 A. No. We didn't look at files, no. 7 Q. It would have been February 4th or 8 (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 10 was marked 8 before, right? 9 for identification.) 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Ms. Freeman, Exhibit 10 is a copy of 10 Q. She was not an existing employee as Defendant's Answers to the Plaintiff's First Set 11 of January 2001, was she -- I'm sorry, 2002? 11 12 of Interrogatories. 12 A. As of January 2002, no, she was not. 13 You've signed off on these as 13 Do you know how she came to fill out indicating that the answers are true and correct 14 14 an application? 15 to the best of your knowledge, information, and 15 A. She again was one of those persons 16 belief, right? that had called on numerous occasions looking to 16 17 Α, Yes. 17 see if we were hiring, and she also had called. 18 Q. And just for the record and for the I told her she was more than welcome to come in 18 sake of completeness, what have been marked as 19 19 and fill out an application. 20 Exhibit 2 and 3 were attached to these Answers to 20 Q. How long had she worked at the 21 Interrogatories. I just separated them so it 21 company before? would be easier to look at. All right? 22 22 A. I would have to go back and look at 23 A. Okay. 23 her record to see when she started with the 24 Exhibit 3 is a list of employees 24 company. Page 107 Page 109 1 hired or at least working at Deerfield Do you know when she left? 1 2 Manufacturing, Inc., as of February 1st, 2002. 2 Somewhere I would say spring/summer A. 3 The company continued to hire people after that, 3 of 2002. 4 right? 4 Q. Around the same time as Mr. Roth? 5 Α. Yes. 5 A. I'm sorry, 2001. Q. Mr. Roth was one of those additional 6 Q. Around the same time as Mr. Roth? people that were hired? 7 A. I would have to go back and look at That's correct. Α. 8 her record for a specific date. 9

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6 7 8 9 Mr. Allen has brought the name up of 10 Carrie somebody. He doesn't know the last name. Is there someone named Carrie who was hired by 11 12 the company after February 1st of 2002? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Q. Who is that? 15 A. Carrie Nelson Gibson. She recently 16 married. 17 Q. When was she hired? 18 2/4. Α. 19 Q. In what position? 20 As an operator on second shift. 21 Same as Mr. Roth? Q. 22

Yes.

What's her race?

White or caucasian.

Α.

Q.

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Q. Several months before the changeover?

A. Yes. Oh, most definitely.

Q. Do you know how many other employees 12 were hired after February 1st, 2002?

A. No, I do not.

Q. Is there some way --

A. You mean up till today or -- I would 16 have to go back. I could, you know, look at the 17 18 number of employees we had at that time versus 19 today. I believe we were somewhere -- including 20 all of our salaried position, we were about 21 120-125, and I think we're about 150-151 as of

22 2003 -- as of August 2003.

Q. So the company has grown since, at 23 24 least in terms of numbers of employees?

Case 1:02-cv-00492-SAS Document 30-3 Filed 12/08/2003 Page 14 of 20 STATUS REPORT

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Page 15 of 20

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THE Deer ied MANUFACTURING COMPANY

• 2310 — 2100T •

. JAGS - FIXTURES

320 N. MASON MONTGOMERY RD. • MASON, OHIO 45040 • TELEPHONE (513) 398-2010 • FAX (513) 398-2014

January 30, 2002

Maurice Allen 3018 Woodburn Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45206

Dear Maurice,

The Deerfield Manufacturing Company has been sold, effective date is January 31, 2002. As the Company will no longer exist, all benefits will cease. Your employment will cease as of January 31, 2002. You are currently on a Worker's Compension Leave and receiving benefits through that program. You will have the option to pick up Health Insurance through C.O.B.R.A., that information is enclosed. Your Life and A.D.&D. Insurance will cease as of January 31, 2002. In the near future you will be receiving information through the mail concerning the Pension Plan.

I wish you success in your future endeavors. Should you have any questions concerning C.O.B.R.A., please feel free to contact me in the Personnel Office at 513-398-2010 ext. 4119.

Sincerely,

anet Freeman

Deerfield Manufacturing Company

Personnel Manager



Case 1:02-cv-00492-SAS Document 30-3 Filed 12/08/2003 Page 16 of 20 STATUS REPORT

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The person whose doors I enter with most pleasure, and quit with most regret, never did me the smallest favour.
— William Hazlitt

Monday February 2002

Daily Record of Events

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Case 1:02-cv-00492-SAS

Document 30-3

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Page 18 of 20

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MANUFACTURING INC A SUBSIDIARY OF ICE INDUSTRIES

320 N. MASON MONTGOMERY RD. • MASON, OHIO 45040 • TELEPHONE (513) 398-2010 • FAX (513) 398-2014

March 12, 2002

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* ASSEMBLIES

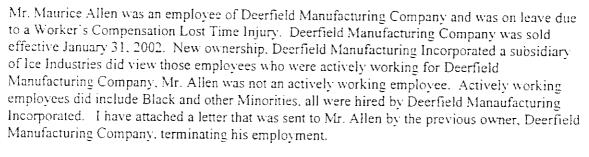
Cincinnati Area Office Attn: Helen B. Glutz, Cart Team Leader 550 Main Street, Suite 10-019

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-5202

Re Allen, Maurice B.

Charge No. 221A200353

Dear Helen B. Glutz.



On February 4, 2002 Mr. Maurice Allen did enter the Deerfield Manufacturing Incorporated plant located at 320 N. Mason Montgomery Rd. in Mason Ohio. I was in the manufacturing area when he entered. I asked Mr. Allen why he was at the plant and he stated he came to work for the new company. I then asked if he had received the letter sent to him by the previous company, Deerfield Manufacturing Company, terminating his employment and he stated he did and thought he was to start with the new company. He stated he came to fill out his paperwork like the other employees. All actively working employees of the previous company, Deerfield Manufacturing Company, filled out an application for employment. I advised Mr. Allen he could fill out an application for employment. Mr. Allen then left the premises. As of date, we have not received an application from Mr. Maurice Allen.

Sincerely.

Human Resource Manager

ICE INDUSTRIES

DEERFIELD MFG. DIVISION

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

Ice Industries is an Equal Opportunity Employ creed, religion or physical handicap; and is a	ver and abides covered organ	by local, st ization und	tate, and Federal laws in regard t ler the Drugfree Workplace Act o	to discrimina of 1988.	ation becaus	e of age, sex, race, National origin,
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